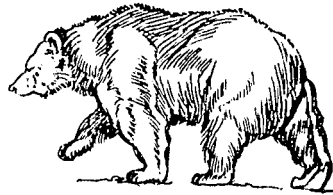


A Bear's Claw



A BEAR'S CLAW

*With Some Account of
The Black Bear, his Wide Distribution,
his Curious Variations of Color
and his Unvarying Char-
acteristics and
Habits*

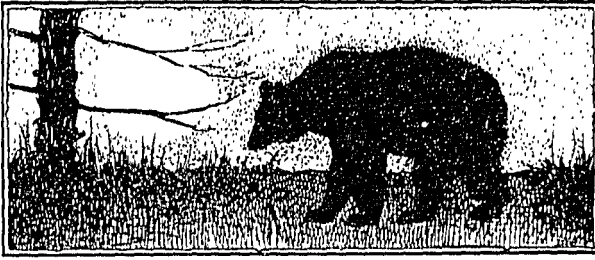


WINNIPEG

CHRISTMAS, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWELVE



FROM THE PRESSES OF
THE FREE PRESS JOB PRINTING DEPARTMENT
WINNIPEG, CANADA



HE most terrible monster among the wild animals of this continent is the grizzly bear. The most amusingly ludicrous and one of the most human and understandable is the black bear. He has been called the Happy

Hooligan of the woods. He is a good-natured, lazy, greedy, inquisitive and timid creature; and yet he has probably terrified more wayfarers than any other in the whole list of the wild animals of North America. He is very widely distributed, being found in the central and southern parts of Canada and the northern and central parts of the United States, from the Atlantic to the Pacific; while his half-brothers, or first cousins, or whatever they are, in Florida, Louisiana, Texas and Mexico, though recognized as entitled to techni-

cally separate classification, are so much like him that it takes a scientific naturalist—and sometimes a *post-mortem*—to tell them apart.

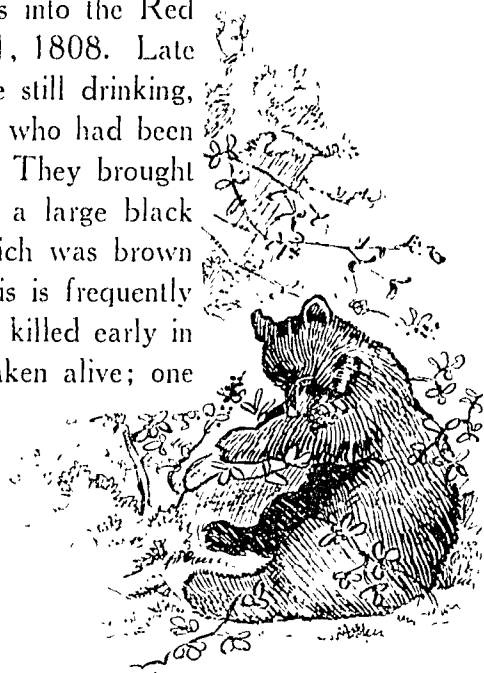


T is a common, but mistaken, idea that cinnamon-colored bears are a distinct species. On the contrary, they are simply cinnamon-colored members of the black bear family, which received its name informally, so to speak, from the early settlers in Eastern Canada and New England, where the bears have always been black by an overwhelming majority, and where, by dint of saying "I saw a black bear in the woods this afternoon," people came to refer to the animal as the black bear. Later on the name was sanctioned by scientific baptism; but it is by no means an accurately descriptive designation. In the East, and in the Middle West, an occasional brown specimen is met; and when the Rocky Mountains region is reached there is a bewildering variety in the coloring of the species. Ernest Thompson Seton, "Naturalist to the Government of Manitoba," as he is proud to describe himself, by way of sole distinction, on the title-pages

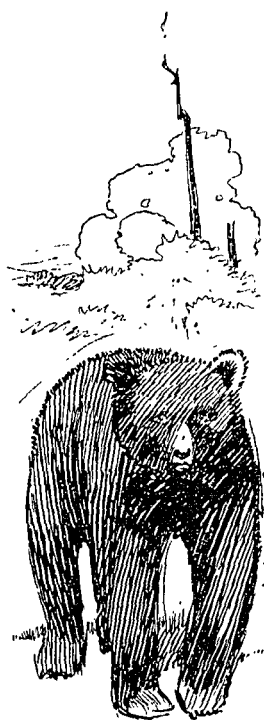
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of his delightful books about wild animals he has met—and who, by the way, spells black bear as one word—writes: “In Manitoba, I suppose about one in twenty blackbears is a cinnamon. I saw a remarkable specimen in the collection of H. C. Nead, of Dauphin—a very pale, straw-colored bear, with chocolate-colored face and legs; yet it was clearly of the blackbear species. N. E. Skinner tells me that two young bears were found in a den near Carberry, Man., about 1895. One of them was a cinnamon, the other black, with a brownish-gray muzzle.” It is interesting to set side by side with this an extract from the pages of that valuable old record of travel and natural history observation in Western Canada, the Journal of Alexander Henry. Here is an entry made by Henry on Dead River, which flows into the Red River above Winnipeg: “August 11, 1808. Late this evening, while the Indians were still drinking, there arrived a party of young men who had been hunting *en canot* up Dead River. They brought some fresh meat, including that of a large black bear and her two cubs, one of which was brown and the other perfectly black. This is frequently the case. I once saw a black bear killed early in the spring, whose two cubs were taken alive; one

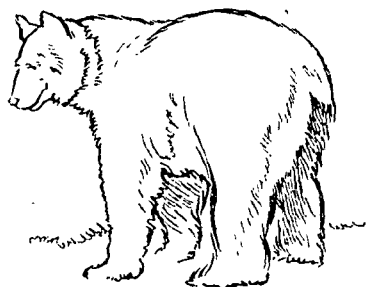


of them was cinnamon, and the other black. Both were kept at the Fort for a long time, and became perfectly tame." Some of a mouse color have been seen, and others of a steel blue color. There are also albinos on record—pure white freaks in the black bear family; they have been reported chiefly from around Flat Lake, in Montana, in which locality albino deer used also to be found. In this connection another extract may be made from Alexander Henry's gossiping chronicle, telling, under date of October 13, 1800, of a white bear seen near the Red River: "Two Indians were with him, Namaundeyea and Grosse Loge; they had made no hunt as yet. One of them a few days ago saw a full-grown bear as white as snow. His gun missed fire, and the bear escaped. He assured me that it was not the grizzly, but the common kind."



It is sometimes said that the "true" black bear has a white horseshoe on its breast. This, however, is simply a distortion of the fact that many black bears have a "white vest," of varying shape and size, up to

about six inches square. Like the grizzly, the black bear may vary in color according to the season, the age of its coat and the weathering its coat has undergone. An animal that is a glossy black in the fall may by the early summer of the following year be a rusty black; or one that is a rich brown when it first emerges from its winter sleep may be a faded yellow brown later on. These changes of color are the result of sun bleach, weathering, and wear and tear. Like all other fur-bearing animals, the bear has both fur and hair—the long guard-hair completely covering and protecting the fine fur underneath. About a month after the bear comes out of its winter den, the fur begins to drop out, first on the legs and belly, and then on the other parts of the body. During this time the animal takes great satisfaction in scratching itself on stumps and bushes—straddling them on its walks, and returning again and again to repeat the operation. From then on the old coat gradually falls out—fur and hair; and at one stage the falling coat hangs in shreds and gives the bear a wretched and moth-eaten appearance. Meanwhile the new hair is coming in, but not as yet the new fur, so that by early summer the bear has a new suit of clothes, but no underwear. As fall

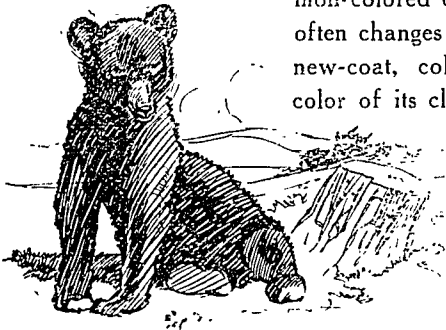


approaches the new fur begins to grow, and by the time the animal is ready to retire to his den for the winter he has a full new coat. This continues to grow during his hibernation, and a bear's coat is at its best when the animal first reappears in the spring.

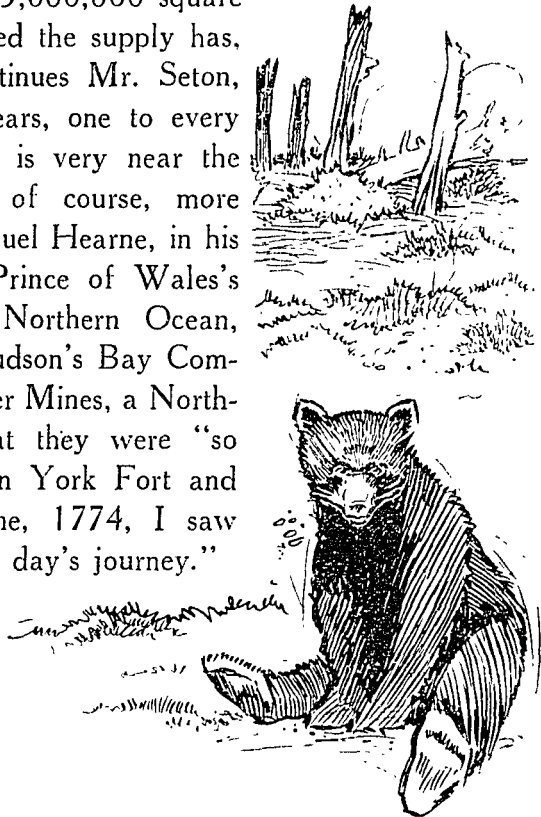


THE natural range of the black bear in North America is, as already noted, of vast extent. On the north and west it is limited only by the limit of trees. In Manitoba the black bear was of general distribution, but most plentiful in the poplar belt from Pembina to Pelly. The black bear's claw,* mounted, accompanying this booklet, which the Free Press asks you to accept with its best wishes for Christmas, is one of several hundred collected for the

*The black bear's claws invariably match their owner's coat in color. A black animal invariably has black claws, a brown one brown claws, a cinnamon-colored one cinnamon-colored claws. And as the color of the individual bear often changes with the weathering of its coat, the normal, or new-coat, color of the animal can be judged from the color of its claws.



Free Press by the Hudson's Bay Company throughout the wide region of the Northwest which is dotted by its trading posts. During the last quarter of the nineteenth century the Hudson's Bay company exported about 7,000 bear-skins each year. Mr. Seton estimates that taking into account the bear-skins exported by other fur companies and the thousands of bears killed when the hides are not worth shipping, and taking into account also the fact that half of the bears taken are used or misused by the natives, 30,000 would represent the annual kill on an area of about 5,000,000 square miles. "As during the time cited the supply has, apparently, not dwindled," continues Mr. Seton, "it implies at least 300,000 bears, one to every sixteen miles. This, I suspect, is very near the truth to-day." They were, of course, more numerous in ancient times. Samuel Hearne, in his journal of "A Journey from Prince of Wales's Fort in Hudson's Bay to the Northern Ocean, Undertaken by Order of the Hudson's Bay Company, for the Discovery of Copper Mines, a Northwest Passage, etc.," writes that they were "so numerous in the country between York Fort and Cumberland House that in June, 1774, I saw eleven killed in the course of one day's journey."





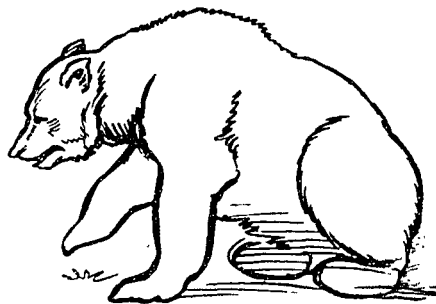
THE new-born black bear is absurdly small and pitifully helpless. Its eyes, like those of puppies and kittens, are shut, and do not open until about the fortieth day. It has no teeth, and is almost naked. It is about eight inches long, and weighs only from nine to twelve ounces—that is, about 1-200 to 1-250 of the mother's weight, while a young deer is 1-30, a young dog 1-25, and a young porcupine 1-15 of the weight of the mother. New-born porcupines are, in fact, as C. Hart Merriam points out, actually larger and heavier than new-born black bears. They are born in the latter half of January, while the mother is sealed up in her winter den, and—being far from torpid—very well able to devote all her time to her cubs. Mother and cubs come out when the snow is gone and the vegetation has begun sprouting. “This, by the way,” writes William H. Wright, “if you happen to live in the neighborhood, is an excellent time to keep a sharp watch on your young pigs.” At this stage the cubs weigh about five or six pounds, and although it is several months before they begin to forage for themselves, their development is now rapid. They are tirelessly playful, and the mother bear will let them maul and worry her and pretend



to fight her. When they play too roughly together the mother will cuff them soundly. "This determination to bring the young up right, no matter how much spanking is needed, is common to most mother bears, but is very variable individually," writes Mr. Seton. "I have known an old bear to punish her young one severely merely because she, herself, had lost her head in a sudden alarm and behaved foolishly. We look not in vain among our own kind for parallel cases."



BLACK bears climb, literally, like squirrels; and from cubhood to old age spend a considerable portion of their time in trees. They can climb as soon as they can walk, and the first thing a mother bear does when any danger threatens is to send her cubs up a tree. She will then try to induce the enemy to follow her, and when she has eluded him will return for the cubs. Where there are wolves, she will thus dispose of her children before going off



herself to feed on berries or other fare. They will climb to the extreme top of the tree, run out to the ends of the branches in turn, chase each other up and down the trunk, and finally curl up in some convenient fork and go to sleep. But they will not come down to the ground until the mother has returned and given them the call to come down. Later in life, the black bear continues to regard trees as his natural refuge from all dangers. He also resorts to trees as loafing places. A quite large bear has been seen lying on his back on a big limb, all four feet in the air, "as utterly comfortable and care-free as a fat man in a hammock." A black bear often has special trees that he uses as sleeping quarters. From frequent use they become worn. In climbing he is as agile as a cat; and, like a cat, he travels tail first in coming down. He can climb, and that with almost equal ease, any tree that will hold his weight, from a sapling so small that there is only room for him to sink one set of hind claws above the other in a straight line, to a tree so large that he has to cling to it, squirrel-fashion, circling it, also squirrel-fashion, so as to keep hidden from a pursuer. It is quite a common thing for a bear up a tree, when fired at, to throw himself to the ground. Those hunters who do not know this

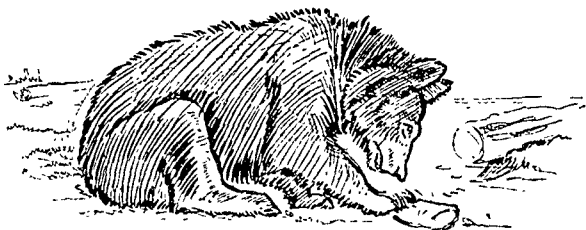


trick are apt to think the animal is killed, and are surprised to see him bound off, apparently quite unhurt.



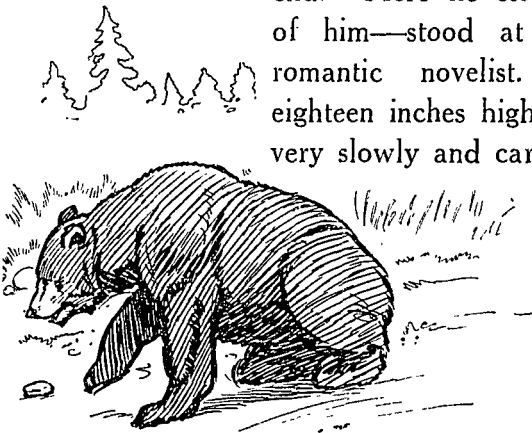
If you have only seen black bears in captivity, you are apt to think that their air of restless boredom is due to their confinement, and that they do not know what to do with themselves because they are unable in a bear pit to follow their natural desires. But the truth is that the black bear at large in the woods appears to suffer from boredom and to be at a loss what to do in order to kill time. Here is a veracious record of the doings of one wild bear, far in the wilds, during an hour of a summer afternoon, when he had not the faintest idea that he was under observation:—

He came along, ripped a piece off an old stump, sniffed for insects, found none, stood undecided for a few minutes, and then walked over to a tree and drew himself upright against the trunk, stretching himself. He then sat down at the foot of the tree, and scratched his ear. Getting up, he started off



aimlessly, but happening to straddle a low bush in his path, and liking the feeling of the branches against his belly, he walked backward and forward several times to repeat the sensation. Then he started back the way he had come, and smelling a mouse under a log, suddenly became all attention. He tried to move the log, and failed. He dug a bit at one end, but gave that up. He then tried again, very hard this time, to turn the log over; and the log giving way suddenly, the bear fell backward, but instantly recovered himself, and rushed with ludicrous eagerness to see if the mouse had got away. It hadn't. It hadn't had time. Which may give you a faint notion of how quick the clumsy-looking black bear can be. After he had eaten the mouse, he appeared to be at a loss to know what to do next. There was a fallen trunk near by, and he got up on the trunk and walked the length of it. Then he turned around (quite hard to do without touching the ground, but he was very careful) and walked again to the other end. Here he stood and looked straight ahead of him—stood at gaze, in the phrase of the romantic novelist. Then (the log was about eighteen inches high) he climbed down backward very slowly and carefully, as if he were afraid of

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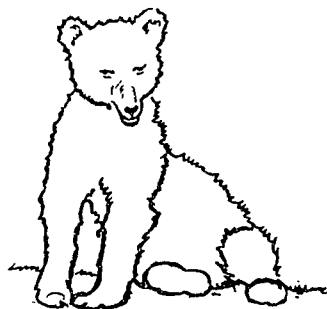


falling, and went to examine a place where the upturned roots had left a hole in the earth. Finally he sat down and began "weaving"—that is to say, he began swinging his head from side to side, making a figure ∞ with his nose, as one often sees the black bear do in captivity. Nothing could be more expressive of utter ennui.



WRIGHTS William H. Wright, one of the keenest observers of wild animals:

"A grizzly 'knows his business' in every sense of the expression. When he starts out, he knows where he is going. When he starts a job, he finishes it and goes on to the next. I have followed one along and over the high ridges of the Rockies for two days on end, when the light snows of early fall showed every step he took. I have tracked one from ground-squirrel burrow to marmot hole; seen where two hours of incredibly laborious digging had yielded him a mouthful of breakfast; followed his careful search for more provender to be got by more digging; and seen where, the possibilities of that particular ridge having been exhausted, he had started on a predeter-



mined journey across country for another feeding ground. The grizzly is working for his living, and knows it. But the black bear acts for all the world like a boy on a rainy Sunday. Watch one for a couple of hours, and you will see him start forty different things, finish none of them, and then sit down and swing his head hopelessly from side to side, as though to say, 'Now, what shall I do next?'



LACK bears, as a rule, lead solitary lives. Nine out of ten grown-up bears will be found existing alone. William H. Wright describes an amusing characteristic of the black bears, their frequent practice of pretending not to see each other when they meet. If one of them comes into a marshy meadow or small open glade in the woods where one or two others are already feeding, he will stop at the opening and go through all the motions of examining the country, carefully looking, however, anywhere but in the direction of the other bears. Meanwhile, the bears already on the ground give no sign of being aware of the newcomer.





NE of the most curious of the practices of the black bear, which is well known among hunters and has been dealt with by all writers on the subject of bears and their ways, is thus written of by Audobon in "The Quadrupeds of North America," published in 1849: "At one season the bear may be seen examining the lower part of the trunk of a tree for several minutes with much attention, at the same time looking around and sniffing the air. It then rises on its hind legs, approaches the trunk, embraces it with the fore legs, and scratches the bark with its teeth and claws for several minutes. Its jaws clash against each other until a mass of foam runs down on both sides of the mouth. After this it continues its rambles." These trees are the bears' sign-posts. They are always by some pathway or well-worn trail of the bears, and in the early summer the male bears leave their teeth marks, each as high as he can reach. Mr. Seton, who writes that he has seen hundreds of these bear trees, chiefly in the Rocky Mountains, regards them as registers, which the bears use. In addition to the marks of claws and teeth, he has found them plastered with mud in which there is bear hair, left by the bears, which, after marking their height



with their teeth and claws, have wallowed in the mud and rubbed their backs against the tree. These records often enrage a bear that comes along later, and he expends his sudden outburst of feeling on the offending but defenceless tree.



It is pretty nearly literally true that the black bear is omnivorous—that is to say, that he eats everything. Technically, however, it means that he is both carnivorous and herbivorous—that he eats flesh, like a wolf, grass, like an ox, fish, like an otter, carrion, like a coyote, insects, like a hen, and berries, like a bird. In short, he eats pretty much everything he can get, and pretty generally all he can get of it. It is said that he kills nothing larger in the way of small game than field-mice and such small fry. But he is both quick and clever at catching these. Frogs and toads are favorite tidbits of his, and he spends much time looking for them. A bear will walk along the edge of a small stream and pin down a jumping frog with lightning-

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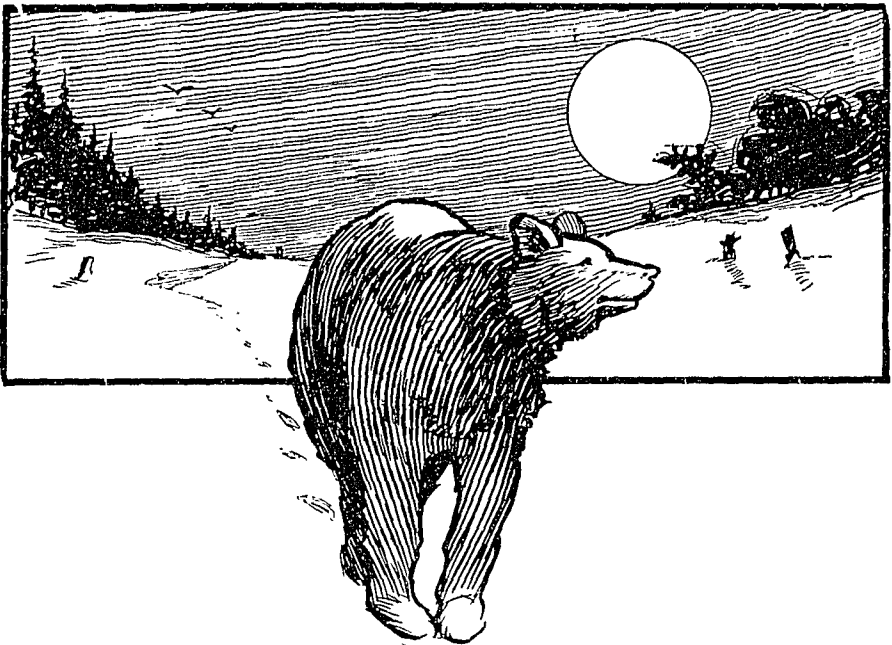


quick paws. Practically nothing in the insect line comes amiss to him. He is everlastingly poking and pulling at rotten logs, old stumps, loose stones and decaying trees, looking for caterpillars, squash-bugs, grubs, centipedes and larvae. He is extravagantly fond of ants, and expert at getting them. He is also fond of bumble-bees, yellow-jackets, wasps and hornets; and he loves honey. He is, however, for the most part a vegetarian, and does far more grazing than is generally supposed, and has his real season of plenty and stuffing in the berry season. He will grasp a laden berry-bush between his forefeet and rapidly gulp down all the berries. In the East he feeds greedily on acorns and beech nuts, and in the West he eats the seeds that drop out of the pine cones. He is fond of fish, but a far less clever and patiently industrious fisherman than the grizzly. He does not store his food, like the grizzly, and takes no thought for the morrow. In spite of his preference for carrion, he soon learns to take advantage of easily procurable fresh meat, being a remarkably adaptable animal, taking kindly to civilization, and accommodating himself readily to the conditions and opportunities that follow in its wake, his favorite civilized dish being young pig.





NOTWITHSTANDING a widespread idea to the contrary, the black bear cannot be called a fierce or dangerous animal. Not that he will not fight, if he is forced to; but he prefers to avoid trouble, when it is at all possible. When cornered, or forced to fight, he can be a dangerous enemy. He can easily disable a man with a blow of his paw. With his jaws he can crush ribs and limbs. But his claws, sharp and driven by muscles of far greater power than those of the strongest man, are his truly terrible weapons.



THE MANITOBA FREE PRESS

Has Marked the Christmas Season in previous years by the presentation :

- In 1901—Of a miniature sack of "No. 1 Hard" Manitoba Wheat.
- In 1902—Of a miniature sack of Reindeer Pemmican, made at Fort McPherson, a Hudson's Bay Company post, sixty-five miles within the Arctic Circle, and 2978 miles northwest of Winnipeg, accompanied by an illustrated booklet bound with a deerskin thong.
- In 1903—Of a Gopher's Tail, mounted, as a "good luck bringer," accompanied by an illustrated booklet containing the Cree legend of the gopher, given in print for the first time.
- In 1904—Of a pen made from a quill of a Canadian Wild Goose, with an illustrated booklet containing the Cree legend of the wild goose, given in print for the first time.
- In 1905—Of a Flint and Steel, with an illustrated booklet containing the Cree legend of the origin of fire, set forth in print for the first time, from a manuscript journal of an officer in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, dated in the year 1817.
- In 1906—Of a Pipe of Peace, with an illustrated booklet containing Indian legends of the origin of the calumet, and some account of the usages in connection therewith.
- In 1907—Of a little Barrel of Flour, made at the Hudson's Bay Company's mill at Vermilion, 400 miles south of the Arctic Circle, from wheat grown in the Peace River country, with an illustrated booklet containing some account of wheat growing and flour milling, ancient and modern.
- In 1908—Of a package of Caviar from Lake Winnipeg, with an illustrated booklet containing some account of the history of Caviar, and a Cree legend of the sturgeon, given in print for the first time.
- In 1909—Of a Beaver's Tooth, mounted, accompanied by an illustrated booklet, containing some account of the beaver's works and ways, of Indian legends about the beaver, and of curious old-world beliefs of the magical and medicinal powers of castoreum and beavers' teeth.
- In 1910—Of a miniature Roll of News Print, accompanied by an illustrated booklet containing some account of paper-making, from the ancient papyrus, made from the reeds of the Nile, down to the modern paper made from Canadian pulpwood.
- In 1911—Of a Buffalo, in bronze, mounted on a piece of Buffalo Hide, accompanied by an illustrated booklet containing some account of the buffalo, and particularly of the round-up of the great Pablo herd in Montana and its removal to Western Canada.

Facts About the Free Press

WINNIPEG

GROWTH OF CIRCULATION

Sworn Average Circulation of the Daily Free Press		Sworn Average Circulation of the Weekly Free Press and Prairie Farmer	
1901	13,862	1902	10,672
1902	15,341	1903	13,640
1903	18,824	1904	15,801
1904	25,693	1905	15,654
1905	30,048	1906	21,300
1906	34,559	1907	23,816
1907	36,852	1908	27,425
1908	37,095	1909	27,050
1909	40,890	1910	26,466
1910	46,181	1911	27,540
1911	54,419	1912*	34,059
1912*	60,818		

*10 months.

VOLUME OF ADVERTISING CARRIED BY THE DAILY FREE PRESS

	Agate Lines Display	Agate Lines Classified	Agate Total Lines
1902	3,853,504	1,334,038	5,187,542
1903	5,009,616	1,793,554	6,803,170
1904	5,027,324	1,979,952	7,007,276
1905	5,820,450	2,192,625	8,013,075
1906	6,067,050	2,717,625	8,784,675
1907	6,201,300	2,938,200	9,139,500
1908	4,415,550	2,074,875	6,490,425
1909	4,962,858	2,789,200	7,752,058
1910	6,517,130	3,213,453	9,730,583
1911	7,848,868	3,972,659	11,821,527
1912 (10 months)	7,165,265	4,537,355	11,702,620

PRESS CAPACITY

The figures given represent the number of 16-page papers which can be printed in an hour.

1900 (Cox Duplex, limit 8 pages)	4,000
1904 (Hoe Pony Quad and Full Quad)	34,000
1911 (Two Sextuple Hoe Presses)	72,000
1912 (Two Sextuple and one Octuple Hoe Presses)	132,000

PAPER CONSUMPTION BY THE MANITOBA FREE PRESS CO.

1899	550,000 Pounds	1906	4,160,398 Pounds
1900	644,640 "	1907	4,624,701 "
1901	999,217 "	1908	4,138,089 "
1902	1,290,492 "	1909	4,551,492 "
1903	1,972,098 "	1910	6,338,995 "
1904	2,791,356 "	1911	8,946,227 "
1905	3,573,704 "	1912*	9,167,766 "

*10 months.

WINNIPEG

The Capital of the Province of Manitoba, the Financial Centre
and the Commercial Metropolis of Western Canada

Population, Assessor's estimate, November, 1912	185,000
Total Assessable Property, 1912	\$214,360,440
Rate of Taxation, 1912	12 Mills
Building Permits, 1912 (10 months)	\$19,186,800
Local Improvements, 1912 (10 months)	\$2,067,788
Area of Public Parks, 1911, Acres	577
Area of City, Acres, 1912	13,999

Growth of Population

1874 (year of incorpora- tion)	1,869
1885	19,574
1898	39,384
1902	48,411
1903	56,741
1904	67,262
1905	79,975
1906	101,057
1907	111,729
1908	122,250
1909	135,000
1910	166,553
1911	152,695
1912	185,000

Growth of Assessment

1901 (real and personal property)	\$26,405,770
1902	28,165,810
1903	36,373,400
1904	48,215,950
1905	62,727,630
1906	80,511,725
1907	93,825,960
1908	102,799,170
1909	107,997,320
1911	172,667,250
1912*	214,360,440

*Real property only.

Bank Clearings

1901	\$106,950,720
1902	188,370,003
1903	246,108,006
1904	294,601,437
1905	369,868,179
1906	504,585,914
1907	599,667,576
1908	614,111,801
1909	675,175,910
1910	953,415,287
1911	1,172,762,142
1912*	1,174,428,099

Inland Revenue Receipts

1901	\$537,958
1902	637,881
1903	775,783
1904	914,189
1905	1,000,685
1906	1,158,723

Local Improvements

1901	\$327,029
1902	387,201
1903	469,394
1904	432,689
1905	907,803
1906	1,071,633
1907	903,302
1908	889,380
1909	1,232,169
1910	1,092,986
1911	1,159,938
1912*	2,067,788

*10 months.

Building Permits

No. of Buildings	Value
1901	796 \$1,708,557
1902	972 2,408,125
1903	1,593 5,689,400
1904	2,268 9,651,750
1905	4,099 10,480,150
1906	4,176 12,760,450
1907	2,827 6,309,950
1908	1,769 5,513,700
1909	2,942 9,226,335
1910	3,240 14,136,200
1911	4,342 17,550,400
1912*	5,020 19,186,800

*10 months.

Customs Returns

1901	\$975,880
1902	1,492,469
1903	1,936,811
1904	2,601,252
1905	2,705,051
1906	3,620,072
1907	3,144,554
1908	4,132,021
1909	3,343,520
1910	5,001,624
1911	8,077,043
1912*	8,932,332

*10 months.

Figures and Facts about Canada

CONFEDERATION CONTRASTS

On July 1, 1867, the Dominion of Canada came into being.

	1868	1911-1912
Population	3,371,594	7,202,122
Paid-up Bank Capital	\$30,289,048	\$114,134,182
Post Office Savings Banks Deposits	\$4,361,684	\$57,982,582
Bank Deposits	\$37,678,571	\$1,063,912,500
Fire Insurance in force	\$188,359,809	\$2,034,276,740
Life Insurance in force	\$35,680,082	\$856,113,059
Mineral Production (1871)	\$10,000,000	\$110,000,000
Post Offices	3,638	13,324
Letters Sent	18,000,000	504,233,000
Railway mileage	2,278	27,500
Railway Gross Earnings	\$12,116,716	\$188,733,484
Total Trade	\$131,027,532	\$841,002,814
Imports	\$73,459,644	\$533,286,663
Exports	\$57,567,888	\$307,716,151
Immigration		354,237
Government Revenue	\$13,687,928	\$117,780,414
Public Net Debt	\$75,757,135	\$313,508,376
Assets	\$3,608,327	\$347,701,547
Cheese Exports	\$620,543	\$20,739,507
Vessels Registered	5,693	7,763
Manufacturing Capital	\$77,964,020	\$833,916,155
Employees	187,942	383,920
Salaries and Wages	\$40,851,009	\$162,175,578
Values of Products	\$221,617,773	\$706,446,518

THE AREA OF THE DOMINION

Total area3,729,665 square miles

Canada contains one-third the area of the British Empire. It is larger than the United States by 111,992 square miles. It is almost as large as Europe, eighteen times as large as France or Germany, and thirty times as large as the United Kingdom. The distance from Halifax to Vancouver is greater than the distance from Halifax to London.

THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Total Arable Land in three Provinces, 357,016,778 acres. Allowing for root crops, hay and gardens, less than 20,000,000 acres, or 5.8 per cent. of the total arable land is yet under cultivation.

Prof. Saunders estimates that Western Canada has 171,000,000 acres of wheat lands.

The three Prairie Provinces have 5,500 schools and 175,000 pupils.

Western Canada has 1,050 branch banks.

IMMIGRATION INTO CANADA

	1911	1912
From the British Isles	113,522	138,121
From Continental Europe	46,111	82,406
From the United States	121,451	133,710
Total	311,084	354,237

In the past five years immigrants have brought cash and settlers' effects into Canada as follows:

From the British Isles—Cash	\$ 28,270,000
“ “ “ “ Settlers' Effects	22,377,000
From the United States—Cash	288,000,000
“ “ “ “ Settlers' Effects as valued by Customs Officers	192,000,000
From Continental Europe—Cash	3,496,000
Total	\$534,143,000

POPULATION

1901	5,731,315
1911	7,202,122

Canada shows a greater percentage of increase of population for the decade, 32 per cent., than any increase for a decade in the United States, 24 per cent.

THE DOMINION PARLIAMENT

The Dominion constituencies are redistributed after each decennial census. This is provided for in the British North America Act. The House at Ottawa, as it will be after the redistribution based on the census of 1911, will compare with the present House as follows:

	Present House of Commons	New House of Commons
Manitoba	10	15
Saskatchewan	10	15
Alberta	7	12
British Columbia	7	12
Ontario	86	82
Quebec	65	65
New Brunswick	13	11
Nova Scotia	18	15
Prince Edward Island	4	3
Yukon	1	1
	221	231

CANADIAN FINANCES

Net Public Debt, September 30, 1912	\$313,508,376.83
Or, per head of population.....	43.53
Revenue—Consolidated Fund to September 30, 1912	81,378,650.78
Expenditure—Consolidated Fund to September 30, 1912.....	43,931,539.79

CANADIAN POST OFFICE STATISTICS—1911

Number of Offices	13,324
Letters Despatched	504,233,000
Post Cards	49,313,000
Registered Letters	11,584,000
Free Letters	16,382,000
Postal Revenue	\$9,146,952.47
Postal Expenditure	\$7,954,222.79
Net Revenue	\$1,192,729.68

The number of letters transmitted has doubled in eight years. In 1868 only eighteen million letters were handled. The increase last year over the year previous was more than double the entire number of letters handled in 1868. There were 437 new post offices, 284 postal note offices, and 189 money order offices opened during the year. The entire number of letters, cards and parcels handled during the year was 662,000,000.

CANADIAN TRADE

For the Past Three Fiscal Years

Imports—	1910	1911	1912
Home Consumption.....	\$391,852,692	\$472,247,540	\$533,286,663
Exports—			
Domestic and Foreign.....	301,358,629	297,196,365	307,716,151
Aggregate Trade.....	\$693,211,221	\$769,443,905	\$841,002,814

CANADIAN BANK STATISTICS

Bank Clearings for Canada	\$7,314,616,418
Capital Chartered Banks. paid up, Nov., 1912	114,134,182
Total Reserve Fund	104,639,396
On Deposit in the Chartered Banks	1,063,912,500
Savings Deposits in the Chartered Banks	577,591,045
Government Savings Banks Deposits	57,982,582
British Capital Invested in Canada	1,811,640,000
(Geo. Paish's estimate).	

Twelve per cent. of the foreign investments of Great Britain are in Canada. Canadian public flotations in London, \$732,096,126.

CANADIAN MILITIA

Authorized establishment, 58,002 officers and men with 11,520 horses.

Western Canada

ACREAGE UNDER GRAIN, 1912.

	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Totals
Wheat	2,709,100	4,927,000	1,486,000	9,122,100
Oats	1,286,000	2,360,000	1,451,000	5,097,000
Barley	463,000	184,000	190,000	837,000
Flax	94,000	1,463,000	111,400	1,668,400
Rye	8,400	2,700	21,000	32,100
Alfalfa	2,500	1,000	8,400	11,900

CROP OF 1912.

(Estimated by Dominion Government).

Wheat	183,815,600 bushels
Oats	230,387,000 bushels
Barley	29,189,000 bushels
Flax	23,011,000 bushels

ELEVATOR CAPACITY—1912

Head of Lakes	25,450,400 bushels
Interior	60,000,000 bushels

WESTERN CATTLE TRADE

	Exported	Local Sales	Local Stockers	Feeders (East)	Butchers	Total
1911	10,356	66,276	3,084	5,401	17,350	102,467

1912—Total number of cattle received at Winnipeg, 83,921. Exports, east, 1,475 (6½c per lb.). Exports, south, 240 (5¼c). Butchers' cattle, east, 5,457 (6c). Feeders, east, 828 (6c). Stockers, south, 53, (4½c). Butchers' cattle, west, 838 (4¾c). Stockers, west, 14,368 (4¾c). Local sales, 60,630 (4 17-20c). Working oxen for the west, 316 teams at \$185.00 a team. (These figures are up to Nov. 15.)

SHEEP RECEIVED AT WINNIPEG

1911	43,614	Average price per head	\$4.89
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1912—Total number of sheep received at Winnipeg, 57,009. Sheep, east, 1,191. Sheep, west, 1,616. Local consumption, 54,202. Average price, 5¼c per lb. (These figures are up to Nov. 15.)

HOGS RECEIVED AT WINNIPEG

191185,157 Average price per head.....\$7.71

1912—Total number of hogs received at Winnipeg, 98,681. Hogs, west, 2,438. Hogs, local, 96,243. Average price, 9c per lb. (These figures are up to Nov. 15.)

POPULATION OF WESTERN CANADA BY PROVINCES

	1901	1911	Increase
Manitoba	255,211	455,869	200,658
British Columbia	178,657	390,229	211,572
Alberta	73,022	375,434	302,412
Saskatchewan	91,279	492,344	401,065

NEW RAILWAY MILEAGE IN WESTERN CANADA—1912

Grading—

C.P.R.	650 miles
C.N.R.	600 "
G.T.P.	500 "
G.N.	100 "

Steel Laid—

C.P.R.	650 "
C.N.R.	350 "
G.T.P.	390 "
G.N.	75 "

Total railway mileage of Western Canada at close of 1912....15,500 miles